



The Corporation of the
Town of Cobourg

Resolution

Moved By

Last Name Printed


BEATTY

Resolution No.: 125-20

Seconded By

Last Name Printed


DARLING

Council Date:
April 14, 2020

WHEREAS at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on April 6, 2020, Council considered a Notice of Motion from Councillor Nicole Beatty, regarding Support for Ontario Conservation Authorities; and

WHEREAS the Town of Cobourg has recently declared a Climate Emergency; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities have been protecting people and conserving and restoring watersheds with local communities for over 50 years; and

WHEREAS the Town of Cobourg is a beneficiary of the important work done by the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA); and

WHEREAS the Town of Cobourg is a member of the GRCA, with representation on its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS under the direction of the Board of Directors, the GRCA provides programs and services addressing local priorities to the residents of Cobourg, including the regulation of development in river or stream valleys, wetlands, shorelines and hazardous lands and associated allowances, watershed management, watershed stewardship, flood and erosion management, environmental education, source water protection, outdoor education and recreation, and the preservation of terrestrial ecology and fisheries; and

WHEREAS the province of Ontario is currently reviewing the mandate and operations of conservation authorities; and

WHEREAS Conservation Authorities provide essential services to municipalities in their watersheds; and

WHEREAS smaller municipalities do not have the capacity or the financial resources to employ staff with the technical expertise that conservation authorities provide,

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Town of Cobourg supports Conservation Authorities and the continuation of the critical programs and services included in their mandate; and

FURTHER THAT during the review and consultations by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the province continue to allow local municipalities' designated representatives to determine which programs will be delivered and mandatory, along with the use of a Board-directed fair municipal levy as per current Regulation;

FURTHER THAT the Town of Cobourg encourages the Province of Ontario to continue to support Conservation Authorities in the ongoing review and prioritize the allocation of adequate funding to support the core mandate of Conservation Authorities, including the GRCA; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution is forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, MPP David Piccini, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Conversation Ontario, Ganaraska Region Conversation Authority, and all other Ontario municipalities.